



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **THREE MEN CHARGED IN CONSPIRACY TO TRANSPORT PROPERTY STOLEN FROM AN EVANSVILLE BUSINESS**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that BRYAN M. BLACK, 30, of Nineveh, Indiana, RONALD KEITH MORRIS, II, 37, of Merom, Indiana, and ANDREW RUSSELL STODDARD, 30, of Whitehouse, Tennessee were charged in separate Informations today with conspiracy to transport stolen property in interstate commerce, following an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. BLACK is charged with an additional count of interstate transport of stolen property.

The Informations allege that between April 1, 2005, and October 1, 2006, BLACK, MORRIS, and STODDARD conspired to commit the offense of interstate transport of stolen goods. The Informations allege that MORRIS and STODDARD stole router cards from their employer, Kentucky Data Link, a business that produces telecommunications fiber optic networks based in Evansville, Indiana, with a value of more than \$5,000. Router cards are pieces of telecommunication equipment that increase the capacity of a telephone line to transmit data. The Informations further allege that MORRIS and STODDARD then transferred the router cards to BLACK. BLACK is alleged to have transported the cards outside of Indiana for sale. The proceeds of the sale of the stolen router cards were then allegedly divided between BLACK, MORRIS, STODDARD, and another participant in the conspiracy.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, MORRIS and STODDARD face a maximum possible prison sentence of 5 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. BLACK faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 5 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000 for the conspiracy charge and maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000 for the interstate transport of stolen goods charge. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville, Indiana.

**The Information is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.**

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